23rd March 1955]

* 1572 Q.—Sri K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Collector of Madurai has declared the strike of Madura Mills workers, Madura, on 14th January 1955 illegal; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (a) No, Sir.

" (b) Does not arise."

Sale of Neera by Jaggery Co-operative Societies in Malabar.

* 1573 Q.—Sri P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state— 9–20 a.m.

(a) whether the Government received any representation from Sri P. K. Gopalakrishnan, M.L.A., on 10th December 1954 for the grant of permission for the sale of Coconut Neera by Jaggery Co-operative Societies in Malabar; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" (a) Yes, Sir.

" (b) The matter is under consideration of the Government."

Sri P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN :—" When the matter was referred to the concerned department of the Government of India, a reply was received stating that they do not find any reason why permission be denied as the same is done by a registered society. In view of this will the Government expedite the consideration of the matter and allow the sale of neera by jaggery co-operative societies in Malabar? As a matter of fact the jaggery producers find it difficult to get a market for jaggery. Only if the sale of neera is allowed, the jaggery co-operative societies can work without any loss. In view of these things will the Government expedite the consideration of this question?"

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" The Government of Madras are not aware of the fact that the matter was referred by the hon. Member to the Government of India. But the representation that was made to us was referred to the Collector of Malabar and the Board of Revenue. We await their reply."

Sri Y. MANJAYA SHETTY :—" When it is the declared policy of the Government that the opening of neera parlours is not inconsistent with the prohibition policy of Government, will the Government give permission to panchayats to open neera parlours as recommended by the Ramamurthy Committee set up by the Government of Andhra?"

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" That is a different question. However I would like to consider it."